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INTRODUCTION

This week we celebrated the 300th anniversary of the founding of Andover, Massachusetts.

This afternoon we gather to review some of the chief incidents in our history.

For the beginning of the story we must turn back to the last of the sixteenth century, when people in England were not allowed to worship God in the way they wished. A very small group turned to a new country for freedom--a New England--and sailing on the Mayflower arrived at Plymouth in 1620. Ten years later more came, to form a settlement called the Massachusetts Bay Colony. And yet more and more came. To encourage settlement farther inland, the General Court offered special privileges for those willing to undertake the strenuous task. What of those who accepted this offer?

Scene 1. Aboriginal Settlement

What did they find? Not a vast wilderness, but a land that had been cleared and made fertile by the Pennacook Indians. These native people, who lived in the Merrimack valley, spent their time hunting, fishing, and planting corn, beans, and squash for food. The Merrimack River yielded fish and the woods teemed with birds and wild animals which were also used for food. The Indians made use of beaver to construct their dams. Beaver skins were also used for clothing.

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The work of the Indian braves was to fight, hunt, and fish; the women were the home makers.

Scene 2. Purchase of land.

It was from these Indians the land for Andover was purchased. Preceding the new settlers from Newcome, near Cambridge, came Rev. John Woodbridge and Mr. Edmund Faulkner, to arrange the terms of sale with Ouchewashe, the Indian Sagamore. For only six pounds currency and a red overcoat, the white people came into possession of all the land from the Merrimack River to Salem in Cambridge. The Indians, however, retained the right to take wood from the waters as long as they left untouched the crops of the white inhabitants.

Scene 3. Incorporation of Andover.

Though protesting the long journey, Ouchewashe accompanied Rev. Mr. Woodbridge and Mr. Faulkner to the General Court in Boston. On May 5, 1786, Andover was incorporated as a Town, named for Andover in Hertford County, England, which had once been home to many of those who settled there.

Here I lay it, I wonder if thou wilt apply it at the first sign of further transgression. Aye, and furthermore, thou shalt wear the dunce cap and kneel by my chair, that all may see and profit by thy punishment.

(pause) Class in a-b, ab; too the time! (pause)

CHILDREN: a-b, ab; a-b, ab; i-b, ib; o-b, ob; u-b, ub.

DAME SOMERSET: Very well done, children. Now, Jeremiah, stand and read from thy Bible.

JEREMIAH: The sons of Israel...

DAME SOMERSET: Enough, Jeremiah! Read on to thyself. Jonathan, stand and spell from thy copybook.

JONATHAN: S-h-o-o-s. f-i-g-g-o-r-s. f-i-g-g-o-r-s, figgers.

H-h-o-o-s-w-i-f-e-s, howevers.

DAME SOMERSET: Enough, Jonathan. Spell on to thyself.

Patience, do thou tell me. If the posterity of Noah, which consisted of six persons at the time of the flood, increase so as to double their number in twenty years, how many people were in the world two years before the death of Chen, who lived 900 years after the flood?

PATIENCE: 300

DAME SOMERSET: Right, Patience. Well done, my children.

The Elder Bradstreet will come next week to hear thee.

Go now and play a short time, ere I summon thee to prepare the dinner. (Children go) (To Eliza) Surely

the way of the transgressor is hard. But today I shall

see thee only if thou art good. Thy next transgression shall

bring thee a most stout birch. What thou pray for

shall I hear. (Exit)

THE END

AMEL: Yes, D. ... Yes, yes, ...

Good-day, Dame Somersby. (He goes out.)

Dame Somersby: We must watch diligently, daughter, lest Satan get our children. Go bring that which needs preparation, whilst I step into the buttery and stir up a spider-cake.

Scene 2. Hiring the First Public School Teacher.

By 1700, there were more than 100 families living in Andover. For towns of that size the law required a Grammar School. The first Town action relating to the Grammar School was, according to Miss Bailey, in February of 1700 or 1701. "Voted and passed that a convenient schoolhouse be erected at ye parting of ye way, at Joseph Wilson's, to be twenty foot long and fifteen foot wide." It was not easy to find a schoolmaster for there were few young men who were educated to fill such a position. However, in 1704, Mr. Dudley Bradstreet was approached by the Selectmen and accepted the appointment as our first school master.

In November, the Selectmen ... Bradstreet and escorted him to the site of the new schoolhouse at Wilson's Corner. There, his prospective students were presented to him.

The appearance of a band of Indians added some excitement to the occasion. The Selectmen, at first uneasy about the possible effect upon the school, were delighted with his comment, "We are not to be afraid of the Indians, and it matters not if the teacher were a black and open guine."

Mr. Braintree contributed the order of forty rounds and the hospitality of the home of Mr. Kelleb, one of the Selectmen.

Scene 3. The Memorial Hall Library.

In the South Church, on May 30, 1873, the townspeople gathered to dedicate a Memorial Hall and library to the memory of our Civil War dead. The generosity of a very small number of prominent townsmen provided the larger part of the funds for the erection of the building and the purchase of about 3,000 volumes.

At the dedication of this Memorial Hall and library the main address was given by the famous minister, Rev. Phillips Brooks, who said in closing, "It has ever been proved that the culture of books makes men fit for the only sort of soldiership we want--the soldiership for Principles and Truth. So in loving memory of the 52 men whose names appear on the memorial tablet, we dedicate our Memorial Hall, to Truth, to Loyalty, to Conscience, to Courage, to Culture."

Today, circulation figures indicate an interest in learning and culture on the part of the townspeople fully justifying this selection by our forefathers of a library as a memorial to our soldier dead.

Section A. Founding of Phillips Academy.

In 1778, the darkest year of the Revolution, Phillips Academy at Andover was founded by Samuel Phillips, Jr., with the financial assistance of his father, Asquire Phillips of Andover, and his uncle, John Phillips of Andover. In the Constitution, the founders resolved that the school should instruct youth in "the great and real business of living." On April 28, 1778, the Board of Trustees--including three members of the Phillips family, the grandfathers of James Russell Lowell and Oliver Wendell Holmes, and seven other friends of the founders--met for the first meeting. Two days later, the school opened in a carpenter's shop at Phillips and Main Streets with thirteen students ranging in age from six to thirty years old. Thence, six year old Eliphalet Pearson was principal. A act of incorporation, signed by John Hancock, made the school the first incorporated academy in the country. The school seal was two years later designed and engraved by Paul Revere.

In 1807, the Trustees adopted a constitution for a Theological Seminar, and within a few years the institution was flourishing. A pioneer of orthodoxy, its ministers preached throughout the country and its missionaries--after a ceremony of prayer at Missionary Rock, near Rabbit's Pond--traveled to the end of the so-called "known world," to South America, to Africa, to Asia, and even to the Hawaiian Islands. Growing side by side with Phillips Academy, the Seminary remained in Andover until 1908, when it moved to Cambridge.

Through the years, the school has grown educationally under many famous headmasters and their faculties; and many national figures, drawn to the school to address the undergraduates--such men as George Washington, Andrew Jackson, Daniel Webster, Theodore Roosevelt, William Howard Taft, and Calvin Coolidge--left their mark on the student mind. And it is with pride that we read such names on our list of graduates as Josiah Quincy, John Kirkland, Samuel F. B. Morse, Oliver Wendell Holmes, and Henry L. Stimson. The school has grown physically, too. The beautiful campus today is the work of three famous architects; Charles Bulfinch, Bay Lowell, and Charles Platt.

And so Phillips Academy, whose founder was a friend of George Washington, has gone forward with the spirit of a pioneer--with vision, with courage--with the very qualities which have always influenced the destinies of our nation.

Scene 5. The Founding of Abbot Academy.

In 1828, so the story goes, Madam Sarah Abbot, a connection of the Phillips family who founded Phillips Exeter and Andover, asked Squire Samuel Farrar, "What shall I do with my surplus funds?" His reply to Madam Abbot came immediately, "Found an Academy in Andover for the education of women." There had already been some discussion as to the desirability of having a school for girls in Andover. A house on Main Street had been offered, but the offer was

regretted, since the young gentlemen from the hill passed that way too frequently. When an acre of ground on School Street, now the Abbot Circle, was offered, it seemed a favorable place. No one had the money to buy it. Then Maria Abbot came forward promising to leave a thousand dollars in her will for this purpose. Squire Parker himself advanced the money. The next May, 1829, their dream was realized.

Page 6. Singing School.

In Andover, as in most New England towns, singing schools were regularly held. They were designed to prepare people to take part in services of religious worship, but they served also as a valuable school for the people.

Records show that in 1792 a singing society was flourishing in the parish, and we know that singing schools were popular all through the century, and indeed, they still are.

Page 7. The Rev. Mr. Marshall's School.

Benjamin Marshall, a minister of Andover from 1792 to 1820, left, by his will, provisions for a high school.

Due to poor health, he had sought frequent change of scene and climate and had travelled extensively through the Southern States and in the British Isles. The universities and schools of England impressed him greatly and probably these impressions in him the thought of founding a good school.

of higher education in Andover. Let us turn to the committee chosen by the town to "draft resolutions expressive of appreciative acceptance" of this donation. The chairman is N. W. Hazen, Esquire.

ONE: (Looking over will of Mr. Punchard) It is a fine thing that Mr. Punchard has done for the town of Andover.

HAZEN: It is, indeed. Gentlemen, won't you be seated?

Fifty thousand dollars with a further bequest of 320,000.

With that, Andover may have a High School of which she may be justly proud.

TWO: Mr. Punchard realized that an educated town would mean a progressive town. I believe he had the best in education offered him until he was ten years of age. At that time, his father's death made it necessary for him to give up school attendance.

HAZEN: Yes, and from then on, everything he attained was due to his own effort. Few men at the age of twenty-eight would have had the ability and determination to amass a fortune.

TWO: It has been fortunate for Andover that Mr. Punchard, a native of Salem, decided to live here. He has done much to benefit the town.

ONE: First, by his contribution of intelligent citizenship; in business as a stockholder of the Andover bank; as a partner with his brother, and later as a partner with his brother-in-law, Mr. Amos Marland of the Marland Manufacturing Company.

HAZEN: We must do him the honor that is rightfully his.

Let us see. We must "cherish the memory of his virtue."

(He writes.)

ONE: "We recognize the obligations conferred upon us by his enterprise and success in adding to the wealth and increasing the prosperity of the town." (Hazen writes.)

HAZEN: ". . . and we recommend to the trustees under his will; to whom he has so largely confided the superstructure of the school, to adopt the most effectual means to associate his name and memory with the institution which he has founded and so munificently endowed."

TWO: You have said much in those few lines. (They rise.)
We are indeed grateful to Mr. Punchard, and we know that the trustees he has appointed, the ministers of the Christ, South, and West Parishes, and the five to be chosen by the town, will do everything possible to carry out his wishes in giving Andover a better system of education.

Scene 3. The Junior High School.

Part I.

From the little cluster of homesteads of the 1600's, Andover has developed into a sizable town--large enough to be incorporated as a city, if we desired to do so. In 1850, our inhabitants numbered less than 7,000; today we are close to the 12,000 mark. This growth in population,

coupled with the expansion of our program of public education, made the need for new school buildings increasingly evident. A new Punchard High School in 1917; a new grammar school in Shawsheen in 1923; and in the midst of the depression years of the 30's, the brave decision was made to initiate another building program. On a bitter cold December evening in 1933, a special Town Meeting was held in the Phillips Academy cage and money appropriated for the erection of a Junior High School wing and a gymnasium-auditorium unit which should connect the new wing with the senior high school and be used by both units. The plans as carried out placed the gymnasium-auditorium unit between the junior and the senior high schools; thus it serves as a connecting link and is readily accessible for use by both schools. It has been dedicated as a World War I Memorial and is used for Town Meetings and many other public assemblies.

Part III.

Some months were needed to complete surveys, architectural plans, and arrangements for a federal government loan through the public works administration, but presently, on a certain Monday morning in September, 1934, the cornerstone was laid. Into a copper box went records and documents selected as being of special interest or importance. Then the box was set in the cornerstone and mortar was placed around it by members of the committee. Our new school buildings were under way!

Part III.

But a bigger moment was yet to come. For ten months contractor's crews, masons, carpenters, and others skilled in the building trades, swarmed about the place. By early June of 1955, less than a year after the cornerstone was laid, the junior high school was completed, and on June 15 an unusual procession could be seen: teams of children moving across the campus between Stowe and Jackson Schools and the new building, carrying books, supplies, and small equipment. It was moving day for the central schools.

It had been suggested that the junior high school be named for Miss Clara Tuttle, teacher, principal, and beloved counselor of our young people for many years, but it was found that no building for which federal funds were appropriated could be named for a living person. So the titles remain: The Andover Junior High School and the Memorial Auditorium and Gymnasium.

Although the program of education carried on in these and our other public school buildings is not perfect, we do take pride in its elements of value and we look confidently to a future that will hold even better educational opportunities for the boys and girls of our town.

EPISODE II

Although Andover has come to be best known as a school town, there are high lights in her social development, too.

Scene 1. Ann Bradstreet.

In the original North Parish of Andover stands a house around which cling the associations of nearly three centuries. It is especially interesting as having been the home of the first woman poet of Andover. Ann Bradstreet and her husband, Simon, came among the earliest settlers to Andover. Mr. Bradstreet was an enterprising and far-seeing Puritan man of affairs. Ann, who had grown up in an English castle, found the hardships of Colonial life a severe tax upon her delicate constitution. To take her mind from her physical discomforts and to fill her hours of loneliness, she turned her mind to writing poetry. Her poems were first published without her knowledge and were presented to her by her brother-in-law, Rev. John Woodbridge, the minister of the first church of Andover.

By the literary men of her times, Mrs. Bradstreet was regarded as a person of unusual talent. They liked these tender lines written from her desire to leave something to her children:

"That being gone you here may find
 What was your loving mother's mind
 Make use of what I leave in Love
 And God shall bless you from Above."

Her courageous spirit and brilliant mind were passed on as a rich heritage to such famous descendants as William Ellery Channing, Oliver Wendell Holmes, and Charles Dana.

Scene 2. The Locke Tavern and Mansion.

As we turn back the pages of memory we find many outstanding celebrities who have visited our historic town. President Washington in 1789 breakfasted at Deacon Abbot's Tavern. While tarrying there he asked the daughter of Deacon Abbot to mend his riding glove. When she had done so, he showed his appreciation by gently kissing the maid, which so elated Miss Priscilla that she would not allow her face to be washed for a week.

Our next pleasant memory is of the great day when General Lafayette, "The Nation's Guest," was entertained at the Mansion House. He was received by a corps of Cavalry on that day in June, 1825, Harriet Beecher Stowe lived in Andover while her husband taught at the Theological Seminary. Many more pleasant memories cluster about the old Mansion House, for after its transformation into a tavern it became the logical center of social life

on Andover Hill. Among its many noted visitors were Lafayette, Daniel Webster, President Pierce, Mark Twain, Wendell Phillips and Ralph Waldo Emerson, who in 1829 entertained the people of Andover with his interesting lectures. As we peep into Phillips Academy in 1811 we find Oliver Wendell Holmes writing of his sports at "Pomp's." The memory of these happy days led him to write the following:

"Still in the waters of the dark Shawsheen
Do the young bathers splash and think they're clean,
Do Pilgrims find their way to Indian Ridge,
Or journey onward to the far off bridge,
And bring to younger ears the story back
Of swimming in the broad and mighty Merrimac."

Another who brought fame to Andover was Dr. Samuel Smith who wrote, "America" in 1832 while he was a student at the Theological Seminary.

Scene 3. Founding of Guild

The Andover Guild as we know it today was so named and organized on June 12, 1896. The organization had already existed for three years under the name of the Society for Organized Charity. The first real home of the Guild was at its present location on Brock Street. The purchase of the lot was made possible by private subscription. The

present building was finished and the formal opening and housewarming held in December, 1896. Rev. Frederick Palmer presided, and during an address to the guests said, "The aim of the Guild is to promote Industrial, Educational, and Philanthropic Work in the Town of Andover." The Departments originally organized were:

Relief Work, Stamp Savings, Boys' Club, General Fund, and Sewing School. Through the years the program of activities has been greatly enlarged and today the Guild continues to fill a very real need in the life of the community.

Scene 4. Minuet.

One of the bright spots in a way of life necessarily stern and exacting was the dancing party. The dress of the period coupled with the beauty of the music and the grace of the dance itself made such an occasion a charming interlude. The earliest record of a public dancing party is found in the cards issued in 1808 for Mr. Ancart's school ball. The dancing began precisely at four o'clock in the afternoon, at Parker's Hall in the North Parish. A colored fiddler usually made music for the dancers. Cato of North Andover was famous. Among the more popular and beautiful of the dances was the Minuet.

Scene 5. Portland Fancy.

Among the English country dances popular with the colonists was the Portland Fancy. We still consider it one of our favorite square dances.

EPISODE III

Let us turn now to the more serious side of every day living, as we look into the book of Early American Industries.

Scene 1. Farms.

The settlers were indeed fortunate to have in the land that they had purchased the only fertile soil between the sands of the Merrimac and the swamps of Ipswich. Large farms naturally developed to provide corn, beans, flax, and barley. The housewives directed the milkmaids making butter and cheese and the bondsmen cut and raked the hay and took the corn by oxcart to the gristmill.

Scene 2. The Gristmill.

The first town gristmill was built in 1718 near the present Hussey's Pond in Shawshoon. The miller, Samuel Frye, and his helper ground the corn between two large grooved stones, turned by a huge water wheel. The grist was used not only for bread and cakes in the homes but was fed to the animals. As we turn the pages of the book of industry we see that Andover's manufacturing grew up along the banks of the Shawshoon River-- a natural source of power.

Scene 3. Powder Mill.

The urgent need for gun powder in 1775 prompted Samuel Phillips to build a powder mill on the bank of the Shawshen. The powder was of such a blend that the Commander of the Continental Army, General George Washington, used to send a special messenger for it. The mill operated successfully for over twenty years, but a series of explosions in which several people were killed brought forth Town Council orders for its closing.

Scene 4. Paper Mill.

Meanwhile in 1790, Mr. Phillips had embarked on a new project. For a short time, operations were conducted in the powder mill, while the paper mill was being constructed. Thrifty and patriotic New England housewives were encouraged to save rags and bring them to the mill. Back to the paper mills we go for the origin of the humble ragbag, which has long since become an institution in New England homes.

Scene 5. Printing.

A printing establishment was set up in 1798 by Ames and Parker, but it did not flourish. This was followed in 1813 by the firm of Flagg and Gould. The latter firm at first printed for Deacon Newman's bookstore but soon

pressed out into wider fields. No other press in the country was equipped with craftsmen and type to turn out books in the Hebrew, Greek, or Oriental languages. It was to Andover, therefore, that Harvard professors and others sent their orders to be filled.

Business growth and the consequent growth of money transactions created demand for a bank. In 1825 organization meetings were held in James Locke's Tavern. A petition to the State Legislature was drawn up, which resulted in the granting of a charter for the Andover National Bank, March 4, 1826.

Scene 6. Flannels.

In 1836 Mr. Timothy Ballard sold to the Molland Brothers the property and privileges for a woolen mill. It was known as the Ballardvale Manufacturing Co., and was located in Ballardvale on the Chavsheen River. Here, for the first time in the United States, the process of double spinning was used, producing the first and finest of white flannels, which were especially suited to baby's clothing. Here, too, under the kind and capable guidance of its later owner, J. Putnam Bradley, was made a remarkable record of pleasant capital-labor relations.

Scene 7. Flax.

For nine years John Smith and his partners operated a manufactory for cotton machinery in Frye Village. In 1833 he was joined by John Dove with whom he had worked in the flax mills of Scotland. While Mr. Smith built a flax mill, Mr. Dove went to Scotland to study flax machinery. Three years later the first manufacture of flax in America took place in Abbot Village. It was another "Andover First."

As we close the book of Early Andover Industries we have but glanced at the beginning of an unfolding tale of progress--continuous progress that has kept us in step with the times. We cannot linger on this interesting phase of our growth in business and industry but that part of the story you may see for yourselves in the exhibit in our gymnasium.

EPISODE IVScene 1. Witchcraft.

By the time Andover had reached its fiftieth birthday, Indian troubles and church difficulties, earlier sources of unease to the little settlement, had subsided and it seemed that our forefathers might look forward to days of greater peace and prosperity. But a new storm cloud was gathering, destined to shower fear and misery and heartbreak upon the lives of many. A belief in the bewitching powers of Satan was widespread throughout Colonial church groups. Real tragedy stalked the land when a panic of suspicion swept through whole communities, causing neighbors and friends and families to suspect each other of consorting with the Evil One. People thought guilty of witchcraft were brought to trial, but instead of clearing up the uneasiness, the very manner of court procedure tended to increase the hysteria. Many innocent people suffered, and some were condemned to death before the storm abated.

The most famous witchcraft case in Andover was that of Martha Carrier. During her trial at the Salem Courthouse in 1693, many a witness attested that Goody Carrier of Andover hurt him. Abigail Williams, Susan Sheldon and Benjamin Abbott testified to Goody Carrier's

bewitching power, blaming her for being the cause of their own physical ailments and death of their farm animals as well. Even young children were called as witnesses. Eleven-year-old Phoebe Chandler, a neighbor of Martha Carrier, swore that she also had been under her evil power. Goddy Carrier steadfastly asserted her innocence but the fatal and final words of the judge solemnly declared her guilty of witchcraft and ordered her to jail. Later she was hanged.

MAGISTRATE: Next case.

CLERK: Martha Carrier, charged with being a witch.

(Reads) Martha Carrier, you are charged with being a witch. Guilty or Not Guilty?

MARTHA: Not Guilty?

CLERK: First witness. (ABIGAIL WILLIAMS Steps forward)

Your name?

ABIGAIL: Abigail Williams.

CLERK: Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, nothing but the truth, so help you, God?

ABIGAIL: I do.

EXAMINER: Next witness. (SUSAN SHELTON comes forward)

CLERK: Your name.

SUSAN: Susan Sheldon.

CLERK: Susan Sheldon, do you swear to tell, etc.

SUSAN: I do.

EXAMINER: Susan Sheldon, who hurts you?

SEAN: Goody Carrier of Ireland. She bites me, pinches me, and tells me she would cut my throat if I did not sign her book.

EXAMINER: Next witness. (BENJAMIN ABBOT steps up.)

CLERK: Your name?

BEN: Benjamin Abbot.

CLERK: Mr. Abbot, do you swear to tell, etc.

BEN: I do.

EXAMINER: Proceed.

BEN: Goody Carrier declared she would stick as close as the bark of a tree. She said I would repent my conduct afore seven years came to an end, and that she would hold my nose so close to grindstones as ever it was held since my name was Benjamin Abbot.

EXAMINER: Is that all?

BEN: No. Soon after this, I had a swelling on my foot, and a pain in my side which bred a sore that discharged several gallons of corruption. I know Goody Carrier has bewitched me.

EXAMINER: You are sure.

BEN: I am, for when she was taken away, I grew well.

EXAMINER: Is that all?

BEN: It is. (He steps back)

EXAMINER: Next witness.

WOMAN IN CROWD: I see a black man standing beside her!

MARTHA: (to crowd) You lie; I am wronged.

(to Magistrate) It is false; and it is a shame for you to mind what these people say. They are out of their wits!

EXAMINER: Next witness. (PHOEBE CHANDLER steps up.)

CLERK: Your name?

PHOEBE: Phoebe Chandler.

CLERK: Do you swear to tell the truth, etc.

PHOEBE: I do.

EXAMINER: You are the daughter of William Chandler?

PHOEBE: I am. On the Lord's day a short time ago, this
Goody Carrier took me by the shoulder and shook me
and asked me where I lived. I did not answer for she
lives next door to me and could not but know who I
was. Later the voice of Martha Carrier told me I
should be poisoned in two or three days. One of my
hands became swollen and painful; also part of my
face.

EXAMINER: Now, if it may please the court, I want to say
that this woman is the worst witch it has been my
duty to prosecute. I ask that a verdict of guilty
be made against her and that she be hung before she
injects her poison into more of our best citizens.

(Judge writes verdict, hands it to clerk,
who steps up and reads it)

CLERK: Martha Carrier, the court finds you guilty of
witchcraft and orders you remanded to the jail,
there to await execution by hanging on the 19th
day of this month.

MARTHA: I am wronged! I am not guilty!

(She is taken out)

Scene 2. Early Town Meeting.

Of course such a settlement as ours needed some government. Many of the earliest settlers made great sacrifices in support of the rights of the individual to freedom--political as well as religious--and to some voice in the management of communal affairs. So the Town Meeting was a natural development. Here, everyone had the right to speak and everyone would be expected to abide by the decisions of the majority. It was direct democracy at work.

It is regrettable that the earliest Town Meeting records, to 1656, are lost to us--either destroyed or carried away by the Indians. Apparently realizing the value of such as were in existence, a Town Meeting in April, 1698, appointed Lt. John Osgood and Ensign John Aslebe a committee to repair the records. They found many interesting items on the books:

For absence from a meeting, citizens could be fined twelve pence. Those in attendance must govern their behavior according to the rules; speaking out of order was subject to fine. In 1660 a forfeit of twenty shillings was imposed for building on land not specified as a house lot, or building without "express leave from the town". So we see that zoning regulations and building permits are not twentieth century inventions. Conduct at the meeting house was also a matter of responsibility to those in Town Meeting assembled. If a dog should

wander into the church the owner faced a fine of six pence. In 1680 a law was passed requiring every person to sit "where put in the meeting house or be fined twenty pence."

In 1700, the committee reported back to the Town Meeting. They had done something of greater value perhaps than they realized. Today the Town Meeting form of local government remains in Andover, sometimes the joy and occasionally the despair, but always the political sounding board of its citizens.

Scene 3. Pompey Lovejoy.

Slavery existed in Andover for some years after the incorporation of the town. Pompey Lovejoy was one of the most lovable and respected of slaves. He belonged to Captain William Lovejoy and according to custom bore his master's last name. Pompey was more than a slave and more than a servant. They used to say, "He was a town fixture." Pompey lived with his wife Rose in a little cabin near Pomp's Pond, now named for him. Could we have looked in on them one day in the early 1800's we might have found them engaged in one of their favorite tasks--preparing refreshments for the Town Meeting. For, as was often said, "Town Meeting wouldn't be Town Meeting if 'ol' Pompey' and Rose were not there supplying the citizens with their 'grog and 'lection cake.'"

Scene 4. Arrival of Acadians.

In 1756 certain Acadians sought shelter in our town. For many years England and France had disputed the right to control Acadia, the land now known as Nova Scotia.

French by birth and patriotism, the Acadians refused to pay allegiance to the British crown, even after a peace treaty gave this territory to England. In consequence, their homes were burned and they were sent into exile. Some of these Acadians, homeless, heartsick, and miserable came to Massachusetts, twenty-two finding their way to our settlement. The twenty-two were German Landry, his wife, seven sons, and thirteen daughters.

To avoid taxing the charity of any one person, the Andover officials wisely divided the group for employment and placed them in three separate locations. The children were "bound out" for service, but so keenly did their parents feel the breaking up of family life that they drew up a petition to the General Court to have their children returned. This request was granted. They were then given a house on the Jonathan Abbott estate. The group was at first viewed with distrust because of the differences of inheritance and religion. Their quiet industriousness and good behavior had effect and they were soon accepted in the community, where they had already made extensive contributions in the cultivation of flax.

finally came for them to leave they presented to Jonathan Abbott a beautifully carved and polished powder horn, an historical relic still treasured by his descendants. This symbol remains as a proof of the gratitude of the Acadians towards hospitable little Andover.

EPISODE V

Through the 300 years of our history, the call to colors has sounded eight times.

Scene 1. French and Indian Wars.

The record of the people of Andover in the never-ending fight for the principles of freedom is a long and honorable one. In her early Colonial history, the struggles with the Indians provided an almost daily question of survival. The people were victims of frequent raids by murderous bands of savages, one of whom is recorded to have stolen Timothy Abbott from his home. At the same time his brother Joseph was slain.

Following several short local wars, the long and bitter fight between the British and the French for control in these colonies developed into a full scale war with some Indians joining the British, others the French.

Andover lay in the path of much of the fighting. In these areas were collected the armies which pursued the French and Indians through the forest and along the streams to the stronghold in Canada where the English were finally victorious. The colonists, relieved somewhat from the strain of Indian warfare, were increasingly involved in difficulties with the mother country.

Scene 2. Revolutionary War.

England was heavily in debt and in order to maintain her troops and her position in the colonies, laid burdensome taxes on the colonists. This led to violent resentment, and ultimately to widespread revolt, since the theory was that

"They certainly had no justification

for that maddening plan to impose taxation

Without any form of representation."

The Revolution had its beginnings at the very doorstep of Andover, with the struggle in Boston climaxed by the actual outbreak of war at nearby Lexington and Concord:

"By the rude bridge that arched the flood,

Their flag to April's breeze unfurled,

Here once the embattled farmers stood

And fired the shot heard round the world."

In seven and a half years of War that followed, Andover sent over one hundred men, nine of whom served as officers in the fight for freedom. In 1783, the long struggle ended, and the Colonies were free and independent states.

Scene 3. War of 1812.

A second war with the British arose over the "Stop and seize" orders, which commanded British seamen to board American ships, remove American sailors, and impress them into British naval service.

"The War of 1812 seems to me,

About as just as a War could be.

How could we help but come to grips

With a nation that stripped and searched our ships,
And took off our seamen, for no other reason
Except that they needed crews that season?"

Out of this conflict came our National Anthem.
Francis Scott Key, during the bombardment of Fort McHenry,
was detained on board a British vessel, trying to get the
release of a British prisoner. During the night, he anxiously
watched the progress of the fight. Early the next morning
he saw, through the smoke of battle, the Stars and Stripes
still waving, and this inspired him to write the "Star Spangled
Banner."

Scene 4. Mexican War.

Just a century ago this month, Congress adopted an
act "for the promotion of the existing war," at the time when
Mexican troops crossed the Rio Grande, the boundary set by
the United States for the recently annexed Texas. Andover
shared the feeling of the North that the whole affair was an
effort to increase the slave area; was not one to instill
pride into the hearts of freedom-loving Americans; and its
conclusion was hailed with relief by the people. Gladly
they turned to the great adventure of the "gold rush" to
California. You may be sure that Andover was represented.

Scene 5. Civil War.

The next great threat to the unity of our country was
the question of slavery. President Lincoln called for 75,000
volunteers to "save the union," which was threatened by the

secession of several of the slave states. Andover responded with nearly 500 men.

Shortly before this time, it had been demonstrated that "the pen is mightier than the sword." Harriet Beecher Stowe had written Uncle Tom's Cabin. As an attack on slavery it made the author world-famous, and was believed to have had influence in the election of President Lincoln. In 1862, Mrs. Stowe went to Washington to meet the President. He held out his hand to the tiny lady. Looking down from his great height, he said, "So this is the little lady who made this big war."

Scene 6. Spanish-American War.

Then followed years of peace and growth for the United States, during which the Monroe Doctrine developed in us some sense of responsibility for our hemisphere. When the war trumpet sounded again, as the century neared its close, it was for Cuba, struggling to free itself from the tyranny of Spain. The destruction of the battleship Maine, at Havana, was the final act which touched off hostilities with Spain.

Of the Andover contingent, only Charles Barney Gould is recorded as having taken part in the most famous of the engagements in Cuba, the Battle of San Juan Hill. There was no spectacular dash up the hill as many believe. The cavalry had been left behind in Florida, and the men, under the impetuous leadership of Theodore Roosevelt, crawled up the hill to complete the engagement.

Scenes 7 & 8. World I & II.

Victory in the Spanish American War saw the country emerge as a great power in international affairs. With the power also went responsibility, and when the security of the world was threatened by the Imperial German Government in 1914, it seemed evident that we could not long remain isolated. In April, 1917, after months of anxious and fearful expectation, the United States was once more at war-- this time with the powers of Central Europe. Andover sent over 450 men to war, 16 of whom sacrificed their lives to bring, as they thought, an end to all wars.

This "war to end all wars" was a failure. The difficult years that followed it were rarely without signs that trouble was looming again on a world-wide scale. The rise of totalitarianism in Germany, Italy, and Japan, culminated on September 3, 1939, in the outbreak of World War II. Again the United States tried to remain at peace, but again was plunged into the conflict on December 7, 1941, when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor.

The country mobilized for the greatest fight in its history, with Andover playing its full part. Nearly 1700 of her citizens, both men and women, served with the armed forces, fighting in Europe and Asia--in fact, all over the world.

"In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky,
The larks, still bravely singing, fly,
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the dead. Short days ago

We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,

Loved and were loved, and now we lie in Flanders Fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe;

To you from failing hands we throw

The torch; be yours to hold it high.

If ye break faith with us who die

We shall not sleep, though poppies grow in Flanders Fields."

Fifty-eight of the Andover boys gave their lives.

Her industries were dedicated to the manufacturing of implements of war; citizens of every age became a part of the colossal machinery in the struggle for survival. The war continued with unabated fury for nearly four years. Germany collapsed in May, 1945, and then, almost as abruptly as it began, the war was brought to a sudden close with the surrender of Japan in August, 1945.

Once again our victory gave new meaning to the old song--

"When war winged its wide desolation,

And threatened the land to deform,

The Ark then of Freedom's foundation,

Columbia rode safe through the storm.

With garlands of victory around her,

When so proudly she bore her brave crew,

With her flag floating proudly before her

The boast of the red, white, and blue."





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